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Environmental Cleanup Office

August 8, 2003

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US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10  
811 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Portland, OR 97204

Tara Martich  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10  
1200 Sixth Ave, M/S ECL-115  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Re: Lower Willamette River, Portland Harbor Superfund Site**  
**USEPA Docket No: CERCLA-10-2001-0240**  
**Monthly Progress Report for July 2003**



Dear Mr. Humphrey and Ms. Martich:

This monthly status report contains information required by the Portland Harbor Superfund Site Administrative Order on Consent.

### 1. ACTIONS TAKEN IN JULY 2003

The following activities were taken in July 2003 to comply with the AOC:

- Laboratory analyses of Round 1 sediment and tissue samples continued
- The LWG continued the validation of sediment and tissue chemistry data
- May 2003 Monthly Progress Report was submitted to EPA on July 10.

### 2. RESULTS OF SAMPLING, TESTS AND OTHER DATA RECEIVED

- The initial Round 1 data package for tissue samples analyzed for PCB congeners and dioxins/furans was received from Axys and forwarded to EPA.

### 3. SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT TWO MONTHS

The work described in the AOC that is planned for the months of August and September 2003 includes:

- Continue to monitor sediment stakes on a quarterly basis
- Continue processing sediment and tissue chemistry samples
- Validate laboratory data for sediment and tissues
- Submit validated sediment data for dioxins/furans and PCB congeners and all validated tissue data
- Submit a technical memorandum describing the proposed groundwater risk evaluation framework

- Prepare and submit a revised Programmatic Work Plan in response to EPA comments received July 25 on the previous draft of the plan.

Pending products currently under preparation by LWG and scheduled for submittal over the next two months are listed in Table 1.

#### **4. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED, ANTICIPATED DELAYS AND SOLUTIONS**

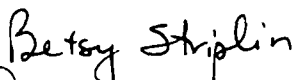
None.

#### **5. DOCUMENTS AND ISSUES AWAITING EPA RESPONSE**

EPA comments or approvals have not been received on a number of milestones and documents that have been submitted to EPA as required by the AOC; these documents and milestones are listed in Table 2. The LWG requests document/milestone approvals to verify that the terms of the AOC are being met and issues are resolved to maintain progress on the RI/FS.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at (206) 241-5185.

Sincerely,

  
Betsy Striplin

RI/FS Coordinator

Copies: LWG Repository

Table 1. Status of LWG Products Pending Delivery to EPA (August/September 2003).

<b>Deliverable/Milestone Description</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Review/Submittal Dates</b>
First sediment PCB congeners and dioxins/furans data packages for validation by EPA	In preparation	<u>Expected submittal date August 7, 2003</u>
First tissue butyltins data package for validation by EPA	In preparation	<u>Expected submittal date August 5, 2003</u>
Proposed Groundwater Risk Evaluation Framework	In preparation	<u>Expected submittal date August 1, 2003</u>
Cultural Resources Technical Memorandum	Awaiting Statement of Work from EPA	Pending
<u>Revised Programmatic Work Plan</u>	<u>In preparation</u>	<u>Pending</u>

Underline indicates text change from June 2003 Monthly Progress Report.

Table 2. Status of EPA Pending Review of Portland Harbor Deliverables (July 31, 2003).

<b>Deliverable/Milestone Description</b>	<b>Date of Draft Deliverable or Request</b>	<b>Date EPA Comments Received</b>	<b>Status/Action Taken</b>
Technical Memorandum: Proposed Database Approach	December 20, 2001	Pending	Pending
Technical Memorandum: Data Quality Objectives for Historical Data	December 20, 2001	Pending	Pending
STA/Historic Bathymetry Integration Report	April 26, 2002	Pending	Pending
SPI Survey	April 26, 2002	Pending	Pending
Historical Database	April 26, 2002	Pending	Pending
Written Approval Round 1 Field Activities	December 3, 2002	EPA initially requested, and received, summary of R1 Field activities. Submittal date February 28, 2003. EPA subsequently requested, and received, detailed field sampling report. Submittal date April 3, 2003.	Pending
Plant and Amphibian Reconnaissance Survey Technical Memorandum	February 2003	Pending	Pending
Seep Reconnaissance Technical Memorandum	February 18, 2003	Pending	Pending
Summer 2002 Bathymetry Data Report	February 26, 2003	Pending	Pending
Summary of Round 1 Field Activities	February 28, 2003	Pending	Pending
Round 1 Field Sampling Report	March 14, 2003	Pending	Pending

Table 2. Status of EPA Pending Review of Portland Harbor Deliverables (July 31, 2003).

Deliverable/Milestone Description	Date of Draft Deliverable or Request	Date EPA Comments Received	Status/Action Taken
Programmatic Work Plan	March 31, 2003	<u>July 25, 2003</u>	<u>LWG revising document</u>
Adult Lamprey Harvest Technical Memorandum	April 4, 2003	Pending	Pending
Hydrodynamic/Sedimentation Modeling Approach Technical Memorandum	April 4, 2003	Pending	Pending
Round 2A Field Sampling Plan	April 17, 2003	Pending	Pending
Proposed Fish Consumption Rates Technical Memorandum	May 9, 2003	Pending	Pending
2002 Sediment Stake Erosion/ Accretion Monitoring Report	May 15, 2003	Pending	Pending
Response to EPA comments on Round 1 RI/FS Work Plan and Field Sampling Plan	May 16, 2003	Pending	Pending
(Revised) Benthic Analysis Approach Technical Memorandum	May 20, 2003	Draft submitted January 13, 2003; comments on draft received through verbal communications in management and subgroup meetings, as well as in written comments. Comments on revision pending.	Pending
Historical Chemistry Data Category Reclassification Technical Memorandum	May 30, 2003	Pending	Pending
Upland Groundwater Data Review Report	June 2, 2003	Pending	Pending

Underline indicates text change from June 2003 Monthly Progress Report.

Shading indicates action completed. Completed actions will be deleted after one month.